(a) whether it is a fact that Government had to announce new dates for all India pre-medical examination because of the leakage of paper earlier;

(b) if so, whether a number of arrests have been made which have shown that there is a gang operating in the country which is responsible for such leakages;

(c) if so, whether such leakages had been reported earlier also;

(d) if so, what are the steps Government propose to take to see that such leakages do not occur in future which affects students; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Delhi Police arrested six culprits including allegedly the kingpin, and the Chargesheet has been filed.

(c) There was also alleged leakage of question paper of 2003 pre-medical examination conducted by CBSE. It is now confirmed and CBI has filed a chargesheet in this case against five accused.

(d) and (e) A high level committee under the chairmanship of Dr. J. Veera Raghavan, Former Secretary, MHRD, Government of India has been constituted by the CBSE to examine various proceduce currently adopted by CBSE which a purpose to identify the loopholes in the system of examinations. It will also suggest necessary measures for strengthening the system to eliminate any possibility of leakage of question papers.

World Bank assistance for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

195. SHRIMATI JAMANA DEVI BARUPAL:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank has signed an agreement with India for providing assistance of $ 500 million for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan project which is aimed at providing education for all the children in the age group of 6-14 years by the year 2010;

(b) if so, the amount and the States where it is to be spent during 2004-05;

(c) whether the expenditure for four years period from 2004-05 to 2007-08 would be around $ 3.5 billion or (Rs. 15750 crore);

(d) whether it is supported by the grants from DFID and from European Commission; and

(e) to what extent the Central and the State Governments are providing resources to implement this plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The World Bank (WB), European Commission (EC) and Department of International Development (DFID) of United Kingdom have agreed to fund Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan as an ongoing programme. The total amount of funding committed is around 1 billion dollars (Rs. 4700 crores) of which 500 million dollars (around Rs. 2250 crores) is from WB, 190 million pounds (1550 crores) from DFID and 160 million Euros (around Rs. 900 crores) from EC against an estimated total investment of Rs. 15,746 crores during the period from 2003-04 to 2006-07. SSA is being implemented in all States/UTs except Goa. The fund sharing pattern between the Central and the State for S.S.A. is in the ratio of 75:25 for the Xth Plan period.

Foreign investment in elementary education

196. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the recent reports in the issue of "Foreign investment in elementary education" as appeared in the print media on 25th June, 2004.